whether it is also a fact that the tourists are not safe even in the metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Delhi and other tourist places like Kochi and Goa;

if so, whether Government has formulated any action plan for safety of the tourists and tourist places; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) There have been reports in the media highlighting cases of harassment and misbehaviour with tourists in India. "Public Order' and 'Police' are State subject as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Government including cases relating to crime against tourists. The Ministry of Tourism discussed the issue of safety and security of tourists, amongst other issues, with Secretaries of Tourism of States/Union Territories, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence. During this meeting the feasibility of deploying the ex-servicemen as Tourist Wardens in States and Union Territories was also discussed. It was emphasized that ensuring the safety and security of tourists is of paramount importance and State Governments/Union Territories must ensure the same.

Potential of tourism in Orissa

1220. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

whether Government is aware that Orissa has a vast potential in tourism sector;

whether Government is also aware that lack of infrastructure in this region, is the major hurdle in development of this sector; and

if so, what is the action plan of Government to help the cash-strapped Orissa both financially and physically to exploit this potential to improve its economy?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

The development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territories themselves. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories for grant of central financial assistance every year under the following schemes:

(i) Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits

(ii) Large Revenue Generating projects

(iii) Fairs and festivals/Events

(iv) Information Technology

Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respect are examined as per scheme guidelines and approved on the basis of inter-se priority and funds released subject to availability under respective head.

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned Tourism projects to the tune of Rs. 7235.39 lakh and Rs. 2327.05 lakh for the State of Orissa in the Tenth plan and in the current financial year respectively. A list of the projects sanctioned is given in the statement.

Statement

Projects Sanctioned to the State of Orissa During the Tenth Plan and the Current Financial Year

(Rs. in lakh)

SI. No.	Name of Project/Scheme	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
	2002-03	
1.	Rural Tourism Project at Raghurajpur	50.00
2.	Computerisation of office and its Groups '	7.50
		Total 57.50
	2003-04	
1.	Development of Puri as a Tourist destination	394.55
2.	Konark Festival, 2002	5.00
3.	Folk Dance Festival, 2003-04	5.00
4.	Rajarani Music Festival, 2003-04	5.00
5.	Buddha Mahotsav	10.00
		Total 419.55
	2004-05	
1.	Development of Peace Park and Amphitheater at Dhauli (distt. Khurda) under Dest. Development	488.51
2.	Integrated Development of Buddhist Circuit in Orissa - Development of facilities at Lalitgiri, Ratnagiri, Udaigiri and Langudi under tourist Circuit	740.67
3.	Shreekshetra Vasant Festival at Puri	15.00
4.	Kharvela Festival, 2004-05	5.00
5.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Pipli in Puri Distt. (Software)	20.00
6.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Raghurajpur in Puri Distt. (Software)	20.00
7.	Development of Village Pipli in Puri Distt. (Hardware)	50.00
		Total 1339.18
	2005-06	
1.	Development of Gopalpur-on-Sea (Distt. Ganjam)	44722

1	2	3
	Development of Sakhi Gopal (Distt. Puri)	460.%
	Development of Taptapani in Distt Ganjam as Tourist Destination	500.00
	Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit Bhubaneswar-Dhauli-Puri-	720.09 Konark
	Development of Chilka Lake (Distt. Puri and Ganjam) as Tourist	389.05 Destination
	Development of Rural Tourism at Village Khiching, Distt. Mayurbhanj	50.00
	Shreekshetra Festival at Puri	15.00
	Puri Beach Festival, 2005	4.00
9.	Konark Festival, 2005	3.00
10.	Rajrani Festival, 2005 at Bhubaneswar	3.00
		Total: 2592.32
	2006-07	
	Development of Simlipal in Distt. Mayurbhanj as a tourist destination	297.12
	Puri Beach Festival, 2006	05.00
	Konark Festival, 2006	05.00
	Ekamra Utsav, 2007	10.00
	Shreekshetra Vasant Utsav, 2006	10.00
	Integrated Development of Chandipur-Talsari-Udaypur-	800.00 Chandaneswar-Remuna- Panchlingeswar-Nilagiri Circuit
	Development of Village Barpali, Distt. Baragarh, Rural Tourism (Hardware)	50.00
	Development of Village Hirapur, Distt. Khurda, Rural Tourism (Hardware)	50.00
	Development of Village Padmanavpur, Distt. Ganjam, Rural	50.00 Tourism (Hardware)
	Development of Village Deulajhari, Distt. Angul, Rural Tourism (Hardware)	50.00
	Integrated Development of Koraput Circuit "Koraput-Deomali-	692.00 Jeypore-Upper Kolab- Gupteshwar as a tourist circuit in Orissa
	Development of Eco-Tourism at Bhitarkanika	38322
	Development of Satkosia as a Tourist Destination in Orissa	424.50
		Total: 2826.84
	2007-08	
	Development of Orissa Tourism information Portal under the scheme	42.50 of Information Technology.
	Development of Mahanadi Central Heritage, Distt. Cuttack under	393.75 Destination Development Scheme.

1	2	3
3.	Development of Kapilas-Joranda-Saptasajya as a tourist destination in Orissa.	287.84
4.	Development of Sonapur-Khandapara-Narshinghapur-cuttack-Pradeep as Tourist Circuit in Orissa	463.60
5.	Development of Harishankar-Nrusinghnath-Ranipurjarial as Tourist Circuit in Orissa.	65021
6.	Development of Silk Route Circuit in Ganjam as Tourist destination.	431.15
7.	Organizing of All India Paika Akhada Exhibition Utsav-2008	5.00
8.	Golden Beach Festival at Chandipur-on-Sea, 2008	3.00
9.	Gurukul of Konark Natya Manadap, Konark, Distt. Puri.	50.00
	TOTAL:	2327.05

Promotion of Rural tourism

1221. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

how many States have identified villages for rural tourism;

the details of the villages identified for rural tourism, State-wise;

the details of the revenue earned from rural tourism, year-wise and State-wise;

whether any appraisal has been made of the constraints faced in the implementation of this scheme;

if so, the details of such constraints; and

what steps have been taken to promote rural tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism has provided Central Financial Assistance to 125 sites in 27 states for creation of infrastructure in rural areas having tourism potential under the existing scheme of Destination development. Funds for skill upgradation are provided through Government of India -United Nations Development Programme Endogenous Tourism Project and the Capacity Building for Service Providers Scheme of the Ministry. The list of rural tourism sites is given in the statement, *(see* below)

Ministry of Tourism does not collect data on revenue earned from rural tourism separately.

and (e) The implementation of the projects sanctioned is the responsibility of the state Governments concerned. However, the monitoring of the implementation of sanctioned projects is done regularly to ensure timely completion.

(f) Ministry of Tourism promotes and publicises all tourism product including rural tourism sites through collaterals/print/electronic and internet media under the "Incredible India campaign. Information is also disseminated through the website and through India tourism offices in the country and abroad.